*The Handmaid's Tale* is primarily concerned with the problems of ideological extremism, historical interpretation, and most importantly the objectification of women in modern society. As in most dystopian fiction, *the future setting merely affords the author an opportunity to illustrate the magnified ill effects of familiar contemporary problems* left unchecked.

<http://www.enotes.com/contemporary-literary-criticism/handmaid-s-tale-margaret-atwood>

Problem the novel illustrates-

How it’s dealt with in the novel –

Real life manifestations –

Margaret Atwood wants to alert the reader to...

Is this primarily a polemic or a novel? Both?